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# HITLER, IL DUCE MEET TO CONFIRM PLEDGE TO ACHIEVE VICTORY

### High German and Italian Officers Attend Talks to Discuss Joint Future Action

Domei

BERLIN, April 25.—Chancellor Adolf Hitler and Benito Mussolini, Premier of the Italian Social Republic, held a conference on April 22 and 23, it was officially announced by the Fuehrer's Headquarters today.

The announcement disclosed as follows:

"In the spirit of their old friendship, the Fuehrer and the Duce discussed the military, political and economic problems concerning the two countries and their Axis partners.

"The Duce informed the Fuehrer of the decision of the Italian Social Republic—the only existing representation of the Italian people—to intensify the Italian fighting efforts side by side with the Allies of the Tripartite Pact. This decision has met with the warmest approval. The endeavors of the Italian Social Government are effectively supported by the Reich Government.

"The determination on the part of the Tripartite Powers to conclude victoriously the war against the Bolshevists in the East and the Jews and plutocrats in the West and to secure for the nations the basis of a new and just order was expressed in the Fuehrer's statement on the deployment of all energies and the utilization of all available forces in the coming war decisions and in achieving the post-war aims.

"Joachim von Ribbentrop, Minister of Foreign Affairs, and Field Marshal Wilhelm Keitel, Chief of Staff, on the German side and Marshal Rodolfo Graziani, Minister of Defense, and Seragino Mazzolini, Secretary of State, on the Italian side took part in the conversations confirming their unshakeable decision to carry on the fight shoulder to shoulder until the final victory is secured and all the political aims of the Axis and the Tripartite Powers had been achieved.

"Rudolf Rahn, German Ambassador and Minister Plenipotentiary to the Italian Social Government, as well as Filippo Anfuso, Fascist Ambassador in Berlin, also took part in the meeting.

"After their meeting, the Fuehrer and the Duce inspected the Italian Fascist divisions in training and convinced themselves on the state of their equipment and the progress of their training. The Italian guests were conducted by Field Marshal Keitel and Colonel-General Fromm, Chief of the German Reserve Army.

### Hailed by Italians

Special

LISBON, April 25.—Premier Benito Mussolini's visit to the Fuehrer's Headquarters has aroused great joy and satisfaction in the leading Italian circles, it is reported from Milan.

Local Italian circles have noted with particular satisfaction the passage in the communique in which tribute is paid to the intensified activities of the new Fascist armed forces and this is regarded in Milan as appreciation of the painstaking reconstruction of the Fascist Italian army in the months following Italy's breakdown.

The communique is stressed in Milan circles as giving back to the Italian Social Republic its rank as a European Power which it had lost in the complete collapse last summer and that Italy is again fighting side by side with Germany as well as with the other Tripartite Pact nations in the great historic struggle of Europe.

### Stronger Italy Seen

Special

BERLIN, April 25.—The meeting between the Fuehrer and the Duce has many interesting military and political aspects, writes the Auslands Informations Dienst.

The article stressed that the consultations took place in the spirit of the old friendship between the two statesmen. "Events of the past year proved that this friendship is able to stand the severest tests and cannot be shaken by any blows," the paper said. "This friendship has been manifested in a dramatic manner by the Duce's liberation. The bold feat accomplished by the German parachutists at Campo Imperatori has become the fundament of Italy's political resurrection."

Turning to the resurrection of the Fascist armed forces and its increas-

(Continued on Page 2 Col. 5)

## *Tsubokami, Wichit Pay Their Respects To Ashes of Buddha*

**Teiji Tsubokami, Japanese Ambassador to Thailand, and Wichit Wichit-Wathakan, Thai Ambassador to Japan, paid their respects to the ashes of Gautama Buddha reposed in the building of the Dai Nippon Buddhist Association in the precincts of the Zojoji Temple at Shiba-ku, at 1 a.m. Wednesday. They also pledged to tighten further the relations between Japan and Thailand. The two Ambassadors worshipped before the altar while the attendants and priests chanted the Aparimitayu Sutra. They left the place of worship a little before noon.**

# BALKANS ARE SET FOR SECOND FRONT

### States Allied With Reich Determined to Repel Any Invasion Attempt

By Arrangement with the Asahi

SOFIA, April 24.—The possibility of an Anglo-American landing operation on the Balkans to form a second front seems to have grown weaker recently. The anti-Axis demand to the Turkish Government to stop chrome ore exports to Germany is interpreted as a new tendency shown by the United States and Britain to adopt a diplomatic offensive against the Balkans instead of military actions. However, various rumors about the second front are still rife and it is even said that an anti-Axis landing on Dalmatia is imminent.

At any rate, the possibility of the anti-Axis landing on the Balkans has to be re-examined on the basis of the situation in the Balkans. Firstly, Germany's political influence in that area is still very large, and all Balkan States allied with Germany are firmly determined to execute their given duties.

In March, when Reichsfuehrer Adolf Hitler and Regent Prince Cyril of Bulgaria met for a conference, an agreement was reached as regards the special duty of Bulgaria in the event of an Anglo-American landing operation. The Bulgarian Government also announced its determination to fight the United States and Britain to the last, in view of the intense enmity of the people aroused by the anti-Axis air raids on March 29 and 30.

On the other hand, the leaders of Rumania, Hungary and Croatia also conferred with the Fuehrer, and pledged themselves to perform the duties entrusted to them with their total strength. The absolute trust placed on Germany by these Balkan States proves in itself the perfect national strength of the Reich.

The United States and Britain, on their part, are trying to split the ties binding Germany with its allies by blind bombings of cities which have no strategic effects at all. By doing this, the Anglo-Americans are hoping to effect a landing on Europe with little sacrifice to themselves and much political results.

Strategically viewed, as the German troops have greatly increased their activity in the Balkans with their advance into Hungary, an anti-Axis attempt to invade that area will be an extremely dangerous venture.

All ports and points that are found to be convenient for landing on the coast of the Adriatic Sea, from Fiume in the north to Dovronivk in the south, are strongly defended by German forces. Then it cannot be overlooked that the entire territory of Dalmatia forms a vast mountain range which prevents the free movement of large forces.

The condition in Jugoslavia is such that an opportunity has been given to the anti-Axis forces to attempt a landing there with the cooperation of the partisan forces of General Joseph Brozovich Tito.

However, there is a chance that the anti-Axis will not be able to take advantage of such an opportunity because there are three independent forces working for the annihilation of the Tito forces, namely, the Serbian Communist Defense Corps, the Greek Communist Defense Corps and the German Army.

### Turks Await Action

Special

LISBON, April 24.—The question of the second front is still in the foreground of the Turkish press comments and reviews, according to an Istanbul dispatch.

The Anglo-American theory that increased air activity already represented the second front is rejected as incorrect by the Yeni Sabah. The paper asked ironically when the anti-Axis would regard the moment as opportune for their big offensive.

It recalled that the anti-Axis had asserted that they possessed supremacy in the air. This was to be the signal for the beginning of the offensive, the journal added, but thus far nothing has been seen of the second front.

# TALKS ON WOLFRAM WITH SPAIN STOPPED BY U.S. GOVERNMENT

### Negotiations Suspended Upon Madrid's Refusal to Cease Entire Exports to Reich

Special

LISBON, April 25.—A United Press report from London said that it is reliably understood that the United States has withdrawn its negotiations with the Spanish Government over the export of wolfram to Germany. The report stated that British negotiations are still continuing.

The United States reportedly withdrew when Spain refused to be coerced into stopping her entire export of wolfram to Germany. At the beginning of the negotiations, the report said, Spain was understood to have agreed to cut the exports to 10 per cent but that later she raised them to 33.33 per cent, whereupon the United States decided that it would put more pressure on Spain by withdrawing from the negotiations.

Meanwhile, the demand made by the British and American Governments that Portugal should cease trading with Germany has given rise to a number of rumors here all the more so since no official statement on the matter has yet been forthcoming, Walter Glaue, Transocean correspondent, writes, according to the same dispatch.

The public here has not been informed, the correspondent said, whether the two allied Governments have submitted notes to the Portuguese Government embodying their demand. It is, however, known that Premier Dr. Antonio de Oliveira Salazar during the past few days held several conversations with Sir Ronald Campbell, British Ambassador to Portugal, as well as with Portuguese Commerce Minister Rafael Duque.

### Anti-Axis Unpopular

"The public is well aware of the fact that Portugal depends to a large extent on England and the United States for her supplies of grain, coal and fuel and that the suppression of these vitally important imports must entail great difficulties for the country," he declared. "Hence, the anti-Axis threat is creating great unpopularity among the Portuguese people."

In this connection, they recall the promises made by Prime Minister Winston Churchill at the time when the Portuguese Government ceded the Azores to England as a war base that no difficulties of any sort would be placed in the way of Portugal's import trade.

However, he stated that the anti-Axis threats are considered ill-return Axis threats are considered ill-returned for the services rendered by Portugal to the anti-Axis cause and are widely regarded as an ait of scarcely veiled hostility.

The Lisbon dispatch also reported of an article in the Turkish paper, Tasviri Efkiar, voicing bitterness against the Anglo-American pressure which forced Turkey to suspend the deliveries of chromium to Germany.

The paper queried if London also expected the suspension of other raw material deliveries.

It also stressed that the cessation of Turkish chromium exports to Germany means the loss of millions of Turkish pounds annually to the country's economy and asked how this loss is to be made up.

Turkish Foreign Minister Numan Menemencioglu was requested by the article to outline the Government's attitude toward this problem of compensation and the journal further emphasized that trade with Germany is a vital necessity, pointing out for example that Turkey is importing medicaments from Germany since the drugs delivered by the anti-Axis are insufficient.

### Swedes Ire Hull

Special to the Nippon Times

LISBON, April 25.—"The United States Government is exceedingly dissatisfied with Sweden's reply to requests that exports of vital war materials to Germany be stopped," declared Secretary of State Cordell Hull today, according to Washington reports.

# *Japan Protests Unlawful Bombing By U.S. Planes of 2 Hospital Ships*

### Suma Instructed to File Complaint Through Spanish Government; Latest Victims Are Yoshino Maru And Tachibana Maru on Jan. 26 and Mar. 14

The Imperial Japanese Government has instructed Yakichiro Suma, Japanese Minister to Spain, to file a strong protest with the United States Government through the Government of Spain, which protects Japanese interests in enemy countries, against the unlawful bombing attacks perpetrated by American planes on Japanese hospital ships, the Yoshino Maru and the Tachibana Maru, respectively on January 26 and March 14, it was learned on Wednesday.

The United States and British forces, it may be recalled, have, since the outbreak of the War of Greater East Asia, carried out 11 unlawful attacks against our mercy ships including the Buenos Aires Maru which was sunk on November 27 by American planes.

The Imperial Government has filed protests with the Washington Government four times up to the present against the attacks on Japanese hospital ships by American aircraft.

The circumstances under which the Japanese hospital ships, Yoshino Maru and Tachibana Maru, were subjected to lawless enemy attacks are as follows:

1. The Yoshino Maru received a near hit 30 meters fore to the starboard released from an American plane which seemed to be a reconnoitering plane at a point 40 nautical miles north of Rabaul on January 26. A member of the medical corps on duty was injured by the impact of the explosion.

The same ship was notified to the United States Government as a hospital ship in December, 1942, and carried the marks as stipulated in international treaties, and also a total of seven Red Cross marks on both sides, at the stern, on both sides of the funnel, on the turret and on the deck at the stern. These marks were all illuminated at the time of the incident. It is regrettable that the enemy carried out the unlawful bombings in disregard of the Red Cross marks which could be clearly seen even from the altitude of more than 4,000 meters.

II. The Tachibana Maru was attacked by a Consolidated B-24 of the United States air force between 2:30 and 2:41 a.m. on March 14 on the sea south of Tariab Island. The American plane dropped three bombs in the course of two dives at an altitude of less than 200 meters and repeatedly machine-gunned the hospital ship. The bomb which fell 100 meters aft to larboard and the machine-gun bullets damaged the hull of the ship.

The ship had been notified to the United States Government in October last year definitely as a hospital ship and was provided with six red cross marks illuminated for nocturnal use as stipulated by international law, so that even the smallest of the marks could be recognized distinctly from an altitude of 2,500 meters. Thus, any enemy allegation that he attacked by mistake will not hold water.

Regretting that the American air force again attacked Japanese hospital ships, the Yoshino Maru and Tachibana Maru on this occasion, in spite of the repeated explanations of the United States Government regarding attacks on Japanese hospital ships and its assurances of respect for the Hague Treaty, and deeming the American attacks to be motivated by nothing less than a sadistic and inhuman desire to enjoy the sight of undefended and helpless persons killed or maimed, the Japanese Government has again lodged a vigorous protest with the United States Government.

# SOVIET PAPER RAPS LABOR CONFERENCE

### Izvestia Says International Labor Office Bankrupt and Demands New Organization

Special

LISBON, April 25.—A sensation was created at today's meeting of the International Labor Organization Conference in Philadelphia when it was announced that an article by the Soviet organ, Izvestia, described the International Labor Office as bankrupt in its present form and demanded a new organization, according to a Philadelphia dispatch.

The report said that the Izvestia article had immediately influenced the agenda and had been the main topic of conversation. Several delegates opined that the Soviet Union wanted to reorganize the I.L.O. in such a way that Moscow could play the dominating role.

Meanwhile, Moscow radio today gave the reason why the Soviet Union had not participated in the Philadelphia conference, according to a Stockholm dispatch.

It announced that the International Labor Office is part of the League of Nations and, therefore, has to follow its political and administrative directions.

Since the Soviet Union has no connection with the League of Nations since December 1939, it said that the Soviet Government is unable to accept the invitation.

# LABOR DISPUTES DISRUPT ANTI-AXIS WAR EFFORTS

Special

LISBON, April 25.—Labor disputes over wage problems continue to disrupt war efforts in anti-Axis countries, according to dispatches received here.

An Ottawa report said that representatives of the Ford Motor Company of Canada and the United Auto Workers, a Congress of Industrial Organizations Union, advised the National Wartime Labor Relations Board that stoppages had caused 14,000 employes of the company's Windsor, Ontario plants to be idle since April 20.

Meanwhile, a Washington dispatch said that iron and steel producers in the United States declared that they were unable to agree to any wage increase and pronounced the demands by the C.I.O. United Steel Workers as unwarranted.

# NORWAY'S DEFENSE GEARED FOR ACTION

### Falkenhorst Convinced of Efficiency of Fortifications Guarding Coastal Areas

Special

BERLIN, April 25.—General Nikolaus von Falkenhorst, German Commander-in-Chief of Norway, returned recently from a tour of inspection of the fortifications on the Norwegian coast, says an Oslo dispatch.

The report stated that the General had convinced himself that the far-flung defensive system there was in excellent condition and that additional, new fortified works were nearing completion.

The General also inspected defensive establishments situated deep in the coastal zone, the dispatch said.

The inspection enabled the General to obtain a comprehensive view of how the whole system of defensive works was organized and of the efficiency of every base within it, the report pointed out.

It added that the Commander-in-Chief was thus able to see that the Norwegian coast, the natural features of which afford all possible advantages for defense, was further protected by every conceivable device against any would-be invaders.

Meanwhile, it was disclosed in Berlin that Field-Marshal Erwin Rommel's latest tour of inspection brought him as far as the deeply echeloned coastal fortifications in the western occupied territories.

A war correspondent who accompanied the Field-Marshal declared that he was struck by the large number of German troops in this area.

He reported that the Field-Marshal generally spends five days of the week inspecting the western regions and that he is uninterruptedly at work all day from 8 in the morning till 7 in the evening except for a brief luncheon interval.

The correspondent said that Field-Marshal Rommel often remarked that he would rather work than eat his lunch. The war scribe also declared that on one occasion the Field-Marshal, on seeing a field full of beautiful spring flowers, observed that it was wonderful to think that underneath those flowers 80,000 mines were concealed.

# ANTI-AXIS MUST PAY TREMENDOUS PRICE 'ON MARCH TO ROME'

### According to Present Rate Enemy Will Take Over One Year and 185,000 Casualties

Special

BERLIN, April 25.—At least 425 days or one year and two months at a loss of 150,000 dead and 35,000 troops taking prisoner, as well as other losses in arms, will be the price the anti-Axis will have to pay in order to reach Rome. This estimate was made on the basis of the losses suffered by the enemy since their landing at Nettuno.

In the first three months since their landing at Nettuno, the Anglo-Americans have lost altogether 252 tanks and armored scouting cars, more than 500 heavy infantry weapons as well as numerous guns and motor vehicles in the beachhead fighting.

Furthermore, the enemy in 100 days have only succeeded in making a 15-kilometer gain in spite of the huge amounts of material employed, and in spite of their being supported by naval guns and numerous artillery batteries.

If their advance continues in this tempo, it will take the anti-Axis 425 days or one year and two months to get to Rome. As the Anglo-Americans have thus far lost 30,000 dead and 6,651 prisoners at the Nettuno beachhead, it may be safely assumed that the way to Rome will cost them at least another 150,000 dead and 35,000 prisoners.

### 174 Foe Raiders Downed

Special

BERLIN, April 25.—Munich experienced the fiercest terror raid yet perpetrated on that city by the enemy during the night between Monday and Tuesday. The city was also bombed in the daylight American raid on Monday.

In the night terror raid, irreplaceable artistic and cultural treasures were destroyed by the enemy. Among the cultural monuments smashed to pieces were the old Pinakothek, Bonifacius Basilica, Concert Hall, Odeon Concert Hall, Wittlesback Palace, Academy of Fine Arts, Bavarian National Library, and the Music Academy.

Condemning the enemy for his acts of wanton destruction, a spokesman of the Propaganda Ministry declared, "The attack on Munich is an additional British action against German and European culture," and pointed out that the enemy is destroying values which are the property of the whole world.

He stated that at the same time women and children are being killed and civilian dwellings destroyed, and stressed that the Anglo-Americans are the destroyers of culture as well as human beings and that they are the forces of mankind's lowest cultural level.

German quarters here declared that the anti-Axis forces paid a heavy price for their terror raids. In the course of the daylight attacks on Monday which were directed against Munich and Friedrichshafen, 91 American bombers, most of them four-motored, were shot down in addition to 10 which landed in Switzerland and three which crashed there. The Americans thus lost 104 machines.

Also during Monday's daylight attacks by American bombers on localities in Rumania, especially Bucharest, where the civilian population sustained casualties, 25 bombers were shot down by the German and Rumanian air defense.

On Monday night, Munich was the main target of British bombers, while other formations raided towns in southwestern Germany, including Mannheim and Karlsruhe. According to incomplete reports so far available, 45 bombers were blasted to earth. The total number of enemy aircraft accounted for by the German air defense during the last 24 hours is placed at present at 174.

# F.D.R. WITHHOLDS DECISION

### Will Decide on Candidature for Election After July

Special

STOCKHOLM, April 25—President Roosevelt will decide on the problem of his own candidature for the presidential election not before July when the Republicans have nominated their candidates, reports the Aftonbladet correspondent from Washington today.

He said that two factors will influence Roosevelt's decision; firstly, his own health and secondly, the state of the European War.

## *Prince and Princess Mikasa Greet Birth Of Princess April 26*

**A Princess was born to Their Imperial Highnesses Prince and Princess Mikasa at 10:58 a.m. Wednesday, the Imperial Household Department announced the same day. In felicitation of the happy event, Their Majesties the Emperor, Empress and Empress Dowager were pleased to present congratulatory gifts to Their Imperial Highnesses, it is respectfully learned.**

# ATTACK ON RABAUL BY FOE REPELLED

### Japanese Defenders Also Foil Enemy Attempts to Hit Kavieng, Truk, Guam

Special to the Nippon Times

UNDISCLOSED BASE IN SOUTH PACIFIC, April 26.—A formation of 75 enemy bomber and fighter planes attempted to attack our posidon at Rabaul, New Britain Island, on April 23.

Japanese Units on the spot immediately counter-attacked the invaders and downed one plane. All the others were repelled.

Damage on the Japanese side was negligible.

### One Plane Downed

Special to the Nippon Times

UNDISCLOSED BASE IN SOUTH PACIFIC, April 26.—Japanese Fighter Plane Units at Kavieng on New Ireland Island downed one anti-Axis plane on the morning of April 23 when 13 fighter planes tried to attack our position.

No damage was suffered by our side.

### Truk Raiders Routed

Special to the Nippon Times

UNDISCLOSED BASE IN SOUTH PACIFIC, April 26.—Forty large-sized enemy planes attempted to attack Truk Island from midnight of April 23 to daybreak next day.

Our Fighter Plane Units promptly challenged the raiders and repelled them.

At dawn yesterday, another formation of 10-odd large planes attacked the island, but it was put to rout when our Fighter Plane Units launched a vigorous counter-attack.

The Japanese suffered no damage.

### Guam Attack Fails

Special to the Nippon Times

UNDISCLOSED BASE IN SOUTH PACIFIC, April 26.—Nine enemy E-24 bomber planes attempted to attack Guam Island yesterday morning, but fled in face of the fierce counter-attack carried out by Japanese Fighter Plane Units.

No damage was reported on our side.

### Enemy Bombers Repelled

Special to the Nippon Times

UNDISCLISED BASE IN SOUTH PACIFIC, April 26.—A formation of 22 enemy B-25 bomber planes failed in their attack on Mereyon Island in the East Caroline Group yesterday morning when they were repelled by the furious anti-aircraft gunfire opened up by the Japanese Units on the spot.

Damage on our side was slight.

# NEW MINISTRY IS SET UP BY BURMESE GOVERNMENT

### Thakin Than Tun Gets Portfolio Of Materials and Transportation

The Burmese Government has carried out a reorganization of its Cabinet to cope with the prevailing situation and, as a result, a Materials and Transportation Ministry has been established and the Public Works and Rehabilitation Ministry abolished. The appointment of Thakin Than Tun, Minister of Agriculture and Lands, as Minister of the Materials and Transportation Ministry was effected on April 16.

The new Ministry will place under its sole control and workings the production, transportation and supply of foodstuffs and other vital materials for livelihood, thereby stabilizing the national livelihood. The business hitherto looked after by the Public Works and Rehabilitation Ministry, now defunct, will be handled by the Forestry and Mining Ministry. Thakin Lun Baw, Minister of Public Works and Rehabilitation, has been appointed Minister of Agriculture and Lands, succeeding Thakin Than Tun.

# NIPPON UNITS BEGIN ADVANCE ON BORDER WEST OF PALETWA

### Enemy Force of 500 Destroyed Near Oukuro in Southern Sector of India Front

By N. ONUMA and R. ENDO
Of the Military Press Corps

ON THE KALADAN FRONT, April 25.—Following the reduction of Paletwa on April 20, various crack units of the Imperial Japanese Forces simultaneously commenced furious onslaughts toward the Indian border line on April 22.

X X Units of the Japanese Forces that occupied Paletwa turned their spearhead toward the west and continued their march in smashing the enemy of 500 at a sector west of Paletwa, on April 21.

After this successful assault, the Japanese Units advanced to a line between Ketha, four kilometers northwest of Paletwa, and Kwebow, and carried out a mopping-up operation against the routed enemy in the area running from the right bank of the Kaladan River down to a sector near Paletwa.

On the other hand, a part of our troops, now advancing northward from X X, smashed the enemy troops of 200 strong at Kabui, five kilometers southeast of Paletwa, and advanced to X X. In the meantime, the main body of the Japanese Forces has been concentrated at X X.

In conjunction with the fast northward advance of another Japanese Unit in the vicinity of Kauwe, 10 kilometers southeast of Paletwa, these various crack Japanese troops launched a simultaneous advance toward the Indian border line on April 22.

### Enemy Position Hit

Domei

UNDISCLOSED BASE IN BURMA, April 25.—Bomber Attacking Plane Units of the Japanese Army Forces in the Burma area, which have been achieving brilliant war results in their "blitz" assaults, stormed over the enemy artillery position at XX in the vicinity of Imphal yesterday evening.

Launching death-defying dive-bombing and strafing attacks, our Wild Eagles severely blasted the military establishments and caused fires to break out at three places.

On the way back, the Japanese attackers encountered an enemy P-40 fighter and a large-sized Douglas DC-3 plane which were instantly shot down.

All the Japanese planes returned to their base safely.

### Enemy Is Desperate

By S. NAKAJIMA
Of the Military Press Corps

INDIAN FRONT, April 24.—With the sweeping onrush of the Japanese-Indian Combined Forces into Shenam and Saibon in the Palel area, the enemy commenced a frantic attempt to rescue the 4th Army Corps troops isolated in the Imphal basin.

The 4th Army Corps, relying on supplies by air, has been putting up desperate resistance. However, with the penetration of the Japanese Forces into Shenam and Saibon, the enemy has been thrown into miserable confusion.

Admiral Lord Louis Mountbatten Commander-in-Chief of the anti-Axis Forces in Southeastern Asia who has recently transferred his headquarters to Ceylon has been driven to utter consternation in anticipation of the danger now confronting the 4th Army Corps isolated in the Imphal basin.

The enemy forces in the Imphal basin are being supplied with foodstuffs by transport planes, but with the approach of the rainy season air-transportation has evidently become extremely difficult. It is an ironical fact that on the other hand the ground forces are impatiently awaiting the arrival of the rainy season.

With the thrust of the Japanese-Indian Combined Forces into Indian territory, the enemy air force, confronted with imminent danger, has moved its headquarters to Calcutta and by collecting munitions available around the city and by mustering the remnants of 7th Division which was defeated in the Akyab area, is now frantically rescuing the isolated troops in the Imphal basin.

The fact that 51 Douglas transports winging eastward and 15 heading westward were seen on April 21, the latter laden with wounded troops, attests to the enemy's desperate attempt to transport supplies to the isolated forces. With the approach of the forthcoming large-scale encounter, the

(Continued on Page 2 Col. 4)

# Press Comments

Wednesday, April 26

## RISE OF MOHAMMEDANS

**ASAHI**—Since the advance of the Indian National Army into India, the independence movement has entered into a phase of pure armed struggle, its final stage. It has also been rendered clear that the Indian independence movement can arrive at its goal of final victory only as part of the war for the liberation of Pan-Asia. Truly this is a historic moment in the history of the Indian independence movement.

At such a time Imam Ibud tu Rashid Ibrahim, for many years a resident of Japan working for the world Islamic cause, has issued a statement emphasizing that the independence of India is inseparably bound up with the liberation of Islam and exhorting all the Mohammedans of the world to join the sacred war against the United States and Britain. This must be regarded as a matter of the utmost significance. The fact that the Imam has long been a vehement exponent of Pan-Asianism and of Islamic liberation with Japan's aid adds weight to his statement.

The 300,000,000 Mohammedans assuredly form a world force with their background of brilliant Saracen civilization and their great religious solidarity. They are, moreover, a Pan-Asiatic Power. Despite their great tradition and racial affinity, however, the Islamic nations had been unable to take their legitimate place among the world Powers in the political field. This was because they had lacked political insight in regard to their colonial status under Anglo-American domination and the historic momentum had been wanting for an upsurge toward Islamic liberation. But the War of Greater East Asia actually liberated the 120,000,000 Mohammedans of Greater East Asia and brought a new stage in the Indian independence movement. Is this not a historic moment for Islam as well as for India? Imam Ibrahim's statement points this out in unmistakable terms.

We may even say that the War of Greater East Asia, the Indian independence movement and the Islamic struggle for the revival of its ancient greatness form an inseparable trinity. Moreover, India plays the part of linking the still-unliberated 100,000,000 Mohammedans with the War of Greater East Asia for the liberation of the Greater East Asiatic nations. The fate of India's struggle for independence will also decide the fate of the Islamic cause in West Asia. From this point of view we heartily concur with Imam Ibrahim's statement that the Mohammedans of not only West Asia, but more especially those of India, should cooperate with the Japanese-Indian combined Forces.

## DELIBERATE MASSACRE OF NON-COMBATANTS

**MAINICHI**—The Vichy Government of France has announced that the victims of Anglo-American blind-bombing since the armistice with Germany up to April 10, number 20,000 killed and 30,000 wounded. A later announcement covering the eight days between April 15 to 22 puts the carnage at 1,800 killed and 2,200 seriously wounded. Is this not a surprising treatment to receive at the hands of the anti Axis nations with whom France is not at war and is, in fact, unable to fight? Besides the appalling loss to lives and limbs, much damage has also been done to property and objects which cannot be described merely as property, public or private. The monastery of Sacre Coeur in Paris and the great cathedral of Rouen are part of the spiritual life of the French people, but they have been wantonly destroyed by Anglo-American airmen.

The reader will recall that early this month Anglo-American airmen bombed Schaffhausen in Switzerland, a strict neutral, and 50 persons were killed and 46 seriously wounded. Upon protest from Switzerland the United States agreed to pay indemnity. The issue is certainly not to be settled by the mere payment of indemnity. This was not the first time that Anglo-American airmen violated the neutrality of Switzerland. It was as a culmination of a series of such outrages that they finally caused the tragedy of Schaffhausen. According to a recent news dispatch, some 400 Anglo-American airmen are now interned in Sweden. If the number imprisoned on the Iberian Peninsula and in Turkey is added, the total must be amazing.

The vandalism being committed by the Anglo-American airmen in the Balkans is quite notorious. A recent instance is reported in Serbia. "On April 6, Anglo-American airmen conducted their fifth terroristic bombing upon the city of Nish, destroyed hospitals and temples and killed several hundred citizens mostly women and children. On April 16 and 17, during Easter, they bombed Belgrade and gutted the greater part of the capital. Obstetrical hospitals, nurseries and general hospitals were hit and more than 2,000 persons were killed or wounded." This is a passage from an appeal addressed by the Serbian Premier to the International Red Cross at Geneva. He says: "Such acts of war against the Serbian people who are in an absolute state of defenselessness cannot be justified on any grounds." He asks the International Red Cross Society to take the matter up with the Anglo-American authorities.

This is only an instance among many. The inhumanity of the Anglo-American barbarians is indescribable. It may be inevitable in wartime for human conscience to be more or less dulled but the savage acts being committed by the Americans and British against the defeated nations or neutrals cannot be called acts of war. We call the sort of bombing that the Anglo-American airmen indulge in, blind-bombing. But this is misleading. It is blind-bombing if their original aim had been military objectives but they have decided to dispense with objectives in their reckless fury. But if they systematically aim at residential quarters and hospitals, that is decidedly not blind-bombing. Has not British Air Minister Sinclair made this clear in Parliament?

We abominate the Anglo-American method not only because it is a deliberate massacre of innocent non-combatants but also because it is a systematic destruction of the moral life of humanity. Any person with any reasoning power will find it not so difficult to discover the exact Anglo-American intention behind it all. Their aim is to destroy the cultural tradition of the old world and to turn the world into a Jewish-Anglo-Saxon one.

## 'DON'T GIVE JAPAN TIME'

**TOKYO SHIMBUN**—"Don't give Japan time," is the cry which has been raised recently in the United States and Britain, because if Japan is given time the unity of the 1,000,000,000 inhabitants of Greater East Asia will be perfected. The enemy is not shouting this slogan so frantically for nothing, because they know that the successful realization of the New Order in East Asia hinges on the close cooperation and unity of the people in this region.

The eagerness of the inhabitants in the Southern Regions to cooperate with Japan has been shown concretely in their willingness to offer their services to exploit the natural resources with which the South abounds. They have volunteered to work because they have come to understand the aims of the War of Greater East Asia and because they have been impressed by the exemplary activities of the Japanese whom they have come in contact with.

In Burma, the native inhabitants are offering wholeheartedly their services in repairing airfields and railway lines and their efforts warrant deep admiration.

The old differences existing between the Burmese, Indians and Chinese in Burma, which were the result of the British policy, have been forgotten and they are now working shoulder to shoulder in the various reconstruction projects.

In the Philippines, all the people are participating in the movement to grow more food and now practically all the idle lands in cities and towns have been cultivated.

The same is the case in Sumatra, Java, Borneo and the Celebes where the native inhabitants are vigorously engaged in various tasks in full cooperation with the Japanese.

These facts prove beyond the shadow of a doubt that the people of East Asia now realize the true meaning of the current war and that they are exerting all their efforts to bring it to a successful consummation. What is more, their solid unity and the zeal which they display in the work of bolstering the defense of their respective regions consolidate forever the strength of Greater East Asia.

## *Fuehrer's Headquarters*

April 25

The Soviets again continued their fierce attacks in the Sebastopol area yesterday but were repulsed by our troops effectively supported by the military ferries of the naval command. In aerial combats, the Soviets lost 32 planes by our A.A.-artillery.

German and Hungarian formations repelled strong enemy counter-thrusts between the Carpathian Mountains and the upper Dnjestr where the Hungarian troops destroyed 24 tanks.

Southwest of Kovel, the bulk of a Soviet cavalry division was encircled and annihilated after several days of hard fighting. The Soviets in the course of this operation lost several thousand dead and numerous prisoners, as well as many arms including 23 guns were seized.

In the Nettuno landing head, a temporarily lost stronghold was reconquered by us in a counter-thrust while on the northern front of the bridgehead, local enemy thrusts were foiled.

The Luftwaffe heavily bombed enemy vehicle concentrations and supply dumps behind the Cassino front as well as the installations of Naples harbor last night.

American bombers yesterday raided Rumania particularly the Bucharest area and German and Rumanian A.A.-guns shot down 25 enemy machines, while 97 U.S. bombers were downed in their raids carried out in the Munich and Friedrichshafen areas.

British bombers after having violated Swiss territorial rights carried out a heavy terror-raid against Munich causing damage in the residential quarters as well as casualties and irreplaceable monuments of culture were destroyed. The towns of Mannheim and Karlsruhe were special targets of the British raiders and in the extremely adverse defense conditions, 45 raiders were downed by our A.A.-guns.

Our bomber formations raided special targets in eastern England.

# DELAYED DECISIONS SAID FAVOR REICH

### Soviet Advance Considerably Slackened and Offensive Power Weaker, Says Dittmar

Domei

BERLIN, April 25.—In a survey of the present military situation which might well have been headlined "Postponed Decisions" Lieutenant-General Kurt Dittmar, military spokesman of the Greater Germany Radio, in a broadcast, stated that not only had the Soviet advance slackered considerably during the last few weeks but that there had also been a marked decrease in the Soviet offensive strength which had resulted in the abandonment of important ground under pressure of counter-attacks launched by Germany and her allies.

If, continued the military spokesman, the Soviets now refrain from immediately taking advantage of their successes, this shows that certain circumstances have weakened the Soviet determination to attack which has been inspired more by the intoxication of success than by considerations of operative suitability.

During the last few weeks German counter-blows have doubtlessly had a strong influence on Soviet operations. Moreover, Soviet successes in the southern sector of the Eastern Front have been, to a considerable extent, made up for in other sectors. The fact that German lines in the central and northern sectors have remained stable as a whole is the more remarkable as in these areas the Soviets have not only been aiming at diverting German attention and tying down Reich forces but meant them to be an offensive calculated to have far-reaching results.

As it would appear that more militarily and politically important objectives are in the north, enemy plans have thus been frustrated completely. The fighting around Chaussy, Ostrov, Pleskau and Narva has clearly proved the limited offensive power of the Soviets.

#### Germans Stem Attack

In the central sector, as in the northern, the deeply echeloned German defense front which has been thoroughly fortified together with the improved equipment of the German troops have succeeded in stemming the massed enemy onslaught in spite of the fact that the Soviet attacks, made after very heavy artillery preparation, were covered by a huge tank escort.

Experience has taught the Germans that operative measures often are less effective than the clever abandoning of ground at points which would have been of importance only if they had become the scene of a large-scale enemy encircling movement.

Events in the southern sector have also failed to come up to Soviet expectations as they had hoped to force a decision at least in the Carpathian and Balkan areas. It is therefore only natural that the Soviets ask themselves where the British and Americans were when the Soviet assault armies crossed the Dniester and the Pruth, reaching the eastern fringe of the Carpathians as well as the vicinity of Stanislav and Lemberg. The reply to this question is rather a bitter one for the Soviets.

All in all it may be said that in the east as well as in the west, decisions have been postponed. Although it cannot be said how long the comparative quiet will last, the present lull is a factor of considerable importance. As things are, every delay in decisions in the fifth spring of this titanic struggle means a definite advantage for Germany and not for her enemies.

It must not be forgotten, General Dittmar concludes, that the fighting efficiency of southeast European states is only just getting into its stride now that the war has been carried to their borders, offering a valuable addition to the German offensive and defensive strength. One cannot help recalling the outstanding feats achieved by our Hungarian allies on the upper reaches of the Dniester and the endurance shown by the gallant Rumanian nation even through the most severe trials.

### Dewey's Prospects Bright

Special

LISBON, April 25. — Governor Thomas Dewey of New York is generally expected to obtain the bulk of the delegates to be sent to the Republican National Convention in Chicago from Massachusetts, Pennsylvania and Kentucky, which today went to the polls to choose delegates to the convention.

# *Captured Enemy Position at Tegnopal Fort Held by Seven Japanese Until Aid Arrives*

By S. NAKAJIMA
Of the Military Press Corps

INDO-BURMA BORDER FRONT, April 26.—How a Japanese Unit annihilated an enemy force four times stronger in number than itself, and how it grimly held the position at the Tegnopal Fort, east of Palel, for one week in face of heavy enemy counter-attacks, was recently revealed by the surviving members of the Unit.

When the Japanese closed in on the Tegnopal Fort on April 9, they encountered stubborn resistance offered by the enemy troops entrenched on a hill near the main anti-Axis position. The enemy soldiers, 200 in number, were equipped with 16 field guns and many trench mortars.

As the situation called for a general attack, the Maejima Unit was chosen by Unit Commander X on the morning of April 11 to carry out an attack to crush the stubborn foe.

At 2 p.m., the time decided upon as being the most suitable for a surprise attack, the Japanese closed in on the enemy position and then carried out a bayonet charge against the anti-Axis position where the British and Indian soldiers, four times stronger in number than the attackers, were entrenched.

A mortal combat ensued as the enemy launched desperate counter-attacks. After a most bloody hand-to-hand battle, which lasted more than three hours, the Maejima Unit annihilated the enemy troops. The Japanese, however, were not without casualties.

Reinforcements were sent to aid the Maejima Unit, but as the enemy opened up a furious bombardment from nearby positions, the advance of the reinforcements was checked. Undaunted, the surviving members of the Maejima Unit continued to counter-attack the enemy from the position which they had captured.

Low-flying enemy planes strafed the Japanese daily. Finally, there were only seven Japanese troops left, including Unit Commander Maejima. The survivors were all wounded and, to make matters worse, they had no provisions. Having fallen short of ammunition, the Japanese had to use the automatic rifles abandoned by the enemy.

Seven days after the start of the attack, the seven heroes who had held on to their hard-won position in face of continual enemy attacks, were finally joined by their comrade troops.

## *Nippon Units Begin Advance on Border West of Paletwa*

(Continued From Page 1)

Imphal basin is now being swept over with raging tumult and indescribable confusion.

#### Wingate, Another of Plan

Domei

LISBON, April 24.—The late Major-General Charles Wingate, commander of the glider troops of the anti-Axis forces in Southwestern Asia, who died recently in a plane incident while inspecting his troops landed in Burma was the author of the plans of para-troop operations in the same region, it was disclosed in an announcement issued by the United States War Department today, according to information from Washington.

The U.S. War Department communique said that the para-troop operations on the Burma Front were proposed by the late Major-General Wingate at the Anglo-American military conference held at Quebec in August, 1943. Considering that the landing of large numbers of para-troops was the only effective means of smashing the Japanese Forces in this area in view of the geographical conditions there, Wingate worked out a plan for landing 16,000 troops by parachutes in the rear of the Japanese Units.

This plan, according to the U.S. announcemtnt, was seconded by General Henry H. Arnold, Chief of the U.S. Army Air Force, who immediately appointed Colonels Phillip Cockrane and John Alison assistants to Wingate.

The three immediately left for Britain and set about organizing glider-borne para-troops and later proceeded to India where they carried out conclusive organization of troops and conducted vigorous training of personnel. The para-troops were attached to personnel transport corps, arms transport corps and fighter plane units for protecting them. By the end of the year 1943, the organization of the large-scale para-troops was nearly completed.

#### Two Hills Taken

Domei

LISBON, April 25.—Japanese Forces today occupied two small hills along the Palel-Tammu Road on the Indian Front after severe engagements since April 21, according to information from Kandy.

The report also stated that anti-Axis forces were at present engaged in combat with the Japanese troops in the sector west of Bishenpur, as announced today by the anti-Axis southeast Asia command.

The communique added that no serious changes took place in the Manipur Hills area while in the area north of Imphal the Japanese Forces carried out two attacks.

## U.S. SAILORS STILL MISSING

### Hope Fades for Crew of Liberty Ship Which Broke in Two

Special

LISBON, April 25.—Hope dwindled for the 55 men missing after the unexplained sinking of the munitions-carrying Liberty ship, John Straub, in Alaskan waters when it broke its back last week, according to a report from Seattle.

Mr. Murphy, Superintendent of the Alaska Steamship Company, announced that the Straub, which had been making its third voyage since it was launched, broke in two. The forward portion sank immediately, while the aft section remained afloat for 14 hours.

## *Hitler, Il Duce Meet To Confirm Pledge To Achieve Victory*

(Continued From Page 1)

ed activities, the journal declared that the Fascist army under the leadership of Marshal Rodolfo Graziani, War Minister, has now reached a state making Italy a strong military partner of the Tripartite Pact again. Furthermore, its fighting on the front is already adopting concrete forms, it asserted.

The paper then regarded the meeting as having far-reaching consequences, as it was held at the moment which is regarded as the eve of decisive events.

The optimistic atmosphere of the meeting, it observed, is disclosed by the fact that the communique for the first time mentions post-war aims and these aims played an important part in the conversations between the Fuehrer and the Duce.

#### Press Lauds Meeting

Special

BERLIN, April 25.—Commenting on the meeting between Chancellor Adolf Hitler and Premier Benito Mussolini, the Berliner Boersen-Zeitung writes that at present when the enemies are making their people nervous by their preparations for the future invasion without being able to define any constructive post-war aim, the clear and firm attitude characterizing the Fuehrer-Duce meeting is remarkable.

Commending the increased Italian efforts, it stressed that Italy under Premier Mussolini is now taking more active part in the fighting than in the previous months as can be seen from the establishment of the new Fascist armed division.

The journal, furthermore, states that it is not a mere rhetoric phrase that the war will be waged side by side until final victory will be won, but it is prediction based on the military strength which has been mentioned by the Fuehrer and which is great enough to sustain even the heaviest military strain.

"Based on this certainty, our post-war planning will see to it that the sacrifices of the long years of war had not been in vain and that the people will enjoy a period of security and order which will soon heal the wounds caused by the war," the paper said, adding, "the Italian people will then be still more obliged to the Duce for having led it to new greatness."

## DOUGHBOYS ASK FOR AIMS

### Say Atlantic Charter Principles Not Seen in N. Africa, Italy

Domei

GENEVA, April 24.—The question as to the political aims of the American Government in Europe is increasingly engaging the attention of American troops in North Africa and Italy, writes Sumner Welles, former U.S. Undersecretary of State, in the Daily Noon.

In the many letters he has been receiving from American officers stationed in Italy, he declared that there has been the repeated query as to how the principles of the Atlantic Charter were being realized as this alleged war policy was not visible in French North Africa, in Sicily or in southern Italy.

### U.S. Navy Bill Passed

Special

LISBON, April 25.—The U.S. Senate today passed a record naval appropriation bill amounting to nearly $32,645,000,000, according to a Washington dispatch. The measure now goes to the White House.

# NO EFFECT ON WAR SEEN BY ELECTION

### U.S. Will Carry on Fight Regardless of Who Becomes President, Scribe Says

Regardless of the outcome of the United States presidential elections in the fall this year the nation is steadily tending toward concentration of all available armed strength on the war with Japan, the Mainichi correspondent at Lisbon says in his dispatch dated April 24 on the basis of information gathered from American sources.

The defeat of Wendell Willkie in the preliminary elections in the state of Wisconsin and his renunciation of the candidacy for the presidency has spelled the triumph of the Isolationists in America and has proved a great stimulus to this camp. This tendency in the United States is proving a source of headache to the British war leaders since Britain knows to well her inability to continue the war without American aid. The British press is divided between the papers which are frankly admitting the triumph of the Isolationists and those which are consoling themselves with the observation that Willkie's defeat was due to his having inordinately attacked his own Republican Party and brought on anti-Willkie feeling within the party and that this did not mean the victory of the Isolationists. On the other hand, the victory of General Douglas MacArthur in the Illinois preliminary elections may be considered to have extended the influence of the Isolationists.

#### Isolationists Now Nationalists

The Isolationists have changed their name to Nationalists but they remain the same in that they advocate Isolationism. Among them are such influential statesmen as Senator Burton Wheeler but the really powerful Isolationists are working behind the scenes like Gerald Smith, leader of the America First Party. His influence is said to be much feared by the Administration, as he has sharply gained supporters of late. His credo is to fortify the United States so as to strengthen the country within, prohibiting immigration and raising tariff. The first consideration must be the well-being of the United States and all other considerations must be subordinated to it. He is saying: "Don't let Churchill interfere in the presidential elections. Don't let Stalin direct American foreign policy. Throw Roosevelt and his clique out of the Administration. Tell Willkie to go to the Soviet Union and stay there. Tell Wallace to migrate to Chungking." Thus the America Firsters are antipathetic toward the anti-Axis as well as Axis nations and are especially anti-Asiatic and anti-Semitic.

Among the Republicans, Governor Thomas Dewey of New York is overwhelmingly powerful and next to him MacArthur enjoys considerable influence although his political ability is doubted. On the part of the Democrats, there is no man of a caliber equal to Roosevelt, so that no other candidate has been named.

#### Democrats Split

The Democrats have virtually split between the north and south, the southern Democrats presenting a joint front with the Republicans in Congress to oppose Roosevelt. When it comes to a real showdown, however, these southerners are expected to rally to the Democratic standard and support Roosevelt, the only Democratic hope. When it comes to a showdown between Roosevelt and Dewey, it is believed that Roosevelt has a better hand, unless he has meanwhile so sorely disappointed the American public in the conduct of war as to forfeit the great prestige he still enjoys among the people. The Anglo-American press for a time reported the situation adverse to Roosevelt but has since then viewed his prospects as more promising and that if he is named he will stand candidate. It is believed, however, that in case he is elected for a fourth term, Congress is bound to be antagonistic and friction will develop.

A German correspondent at Lisbon conversant with American affairs has said that in that sense he would welcome a fourth term. It is interesting to note, the Mainichi correspondent continues, that a recent issue of the Economist says that a fourth term is not to the advantage of Britain for the same reason. The rise of the Isolationists is liable to make it difficult for the Administration to prosecute the war, whether in internal administration or foreign policy. The real Isolationists are demanding that the United States should withdraw from Europe and concentrate on the Pacific war. They contend that instead of fighting for the sake of Britain the United States should fight for her own sake. A German who has returned to Europe from America by an exchange ship said that Americans have become weary of fighting on two fronts and an all-out war with Japan is growing more and more popular. This tendency is throwing the strategic plans of the United States into confusion but in either case, whether the Isolationists get into power or Roosevelt is re-elected, the presidential elections may be regarded as certain to be a turning point in the American war policy in favor of concentrating on the war with Japan.

## *70 Enemy Warplanes At Airfields Damaged In Vesuvius Eruption*

Special

LISBON, April 25.—The raining of hot ashes and brimstone during the eruption of Mount Vesuvius last month damaged 70 anti-Axis planes with 15 beyond repair, a Naples report disclosed. The report said that the eruption was so sudden that it prevented the removal of the planes from the airfields. Meanwhile, a Montreal dispatch said that 15 persons were killed when a twin-engined bomber crashed into a building in the business district of the city and burst into flames.

# ENEMY BOLSTERING AIR FORCE IN CHINA

### Sub-Stratospheric Aerial Combats on Continent Predicted By Japanese Commander

Frantic endeavors are being made by the enemy to strengthen the American air force in China and the air war on the Continent is rapidly assuming the character of "scientific warfare," according to a Mainichi dispatch from an undisclosed base in China dated April 25.

The report says that recently more Republic P-47's (Thunderbolt) have been sent to China. The P-47 plane is said to be the latest fighter for substratospheric flight and allegedly has the maximum speed of 640 kilometers per hour at the altitude of 9,000 meters. A special characteristic of the American fighter plane is its capacity of taking high altitude has been remarkably strengthened and that it has a long cruising radius. Proof of this says the Mainichi report, is that a P-38 that recently came over Hongkong for scouting purposes fled away at an altitude of 10,000 meters.

The Mainichi dispatch predicts that this new characteristic of the enemy plane will naturally lead to the development of sub-stratospheric air battle on the Chinese Continent.

"Capacity of high-altitude flight is a new characteristic common to enemy machines," said Commander X of the Hayabusa Fighter Corps, adding, "not only fighters but bombers will gain more capacity of high-altitude flight." The commander declared that air war has come to assume the nature of highly scientific warfare.

### Hitler's Interpreter Hurt

Domei

BERLIN, April 24.—The Fuehrer's interpreter, Minister Dr. Schmidt, has been severely injured in an auto accident but his condition is improving. He acted as interpreter at all the important foreign political conferences of the Fuehrer and also served as a translator for Foreign Minister Stresemann in the famous Stresemann-Briand talks at Thoiry. He was also present at the Godesberg meeting between the Fuehrer and British Prime Minister Neville Chamberlain, attended the Munich Conference and acted as interpreter during all the meetings between the Fuehrer and Premier Benito Mussolini.

# AUSTRALIAN BASES SAID NOT FOR U.S.

### Any Post-War Demand by America Will Be Rejected, Says Curtin in Washington

Special

LISBON, April 25.—Australia will reject any American demand for the use of Australian bases after the war, Australian Prime Minister John Curtin told the press conference today in Washington while en route to London to attend the Prime Ministers' Conference, according to a New York dispatch.

Asked about the use of Australian and New Zealand bases by the United States after the war, Curtin replied that nobody could demand that these bases should come under another's rule, just as Australia and New Zealand could not demand from the United States or any other government that certain districts should be put under Australian rule just because Australian soldiers had been fighting there.

He said that Australia was willing to grant to American air companies the right of landing but that this right had to be mutual.

Meanwhile, a United Press dispatch from Washington quoted an authority in the State Department as saying that the United States regards the post-war ownership of lend-lease air bases as "relatively unimportant," but will insist that American air lines have access to them on equal terms with other nations.

The same dispatch pointed out that Adolf Berle, Jr., U.S. Assistant Secretary of State, reportedly took this position during the recent preliminary talks in London with Lord Beaverbrook who is in charge of post-war aviation planning for the British Government.

### Argentine Ports Controlled

Special

LISBON, April 25.—Argentine ports have been declared as military districts and will henceforth be under the strict control of naval authorities, who will also control passenger and goods traffic from and to foreign countries, a Buenos Aires dispatch disclosed.

THE NIPPON KOGYO GINKO
(The Industrial Bank of Japan, Ltd.)
Established by the Japanese Government by virtue of a Special Enactment of the Imperial Diet.
Capital [illegible]
8, 1-chome, Marunouchi, Kojimachi-ku, Tokyo.
Nihombashi—4, Tori 2-chome, Nihombashi-ku.
Osaka—1, 5-chome, Korai-bashi, Higashi-ku.
Kobe—38 Nishimachi, Kobe-ku.
Nagoya—1, 3-chome, Hirokoji-dori, Naka-ku.
Fukuoka—80 Tenjin-no-cho.
Tohoku—32 Omachi, Fukushima.
Toyama—30 Sakurabashi-dori.
Hiroshima—77 Sarugaku-cho.
Hokkaido—1, Nishi 4-chome, Kita-sanjo, Sapporo.
Correspondents—In the principal cities at home and abroad.
Governor: Koichi Kawakami, Esq.
Vice-Governor: Seiichiro Arai, Esq.
Directors: Kenji Ito, Esq., [illegible], Esq., Kikumatsu Nakayama, Esq., Akira Kondya, Esq., [illegible], Esq.
Auditors: Count Toshinori Futara, [illegible] Nosu Esq., Shin Watanabe, Esq.
1.—Loans on the security of public bonds or debentures and shares, estates (zaidan), specified land and buildings.
2.—Subscription and underwriting of public bonds or debentures.
3.—Deposits and safe custody of valuables.
4.—Discounting of bills.
Other Banking business sanctioned by the Minister of State for Finance in accordance with Ordinances.
Dairen, Shanghai.

Announcement of Initials

In order to carry out the plan of construction and management of all water and coal electric power generation and electric industries in Manchoukuo, and to augment the production capacity of the same for the final victory in the War of Greater East Asia, the Government of Manchoukuo has decided to amalgamate the entire enterprise of Manshu Dengyo K.K. and water electric power generation enterprise of the Government in the form of an increase in the capital of Manshu Dengyo K.K. absorbing all the assets of the Government's electric power generation.

At this juncture of starting our new mission we also take this opportunity to announce the sole use of our initials in Japanese "Manden" from April 1st.

MANSHU DENGYO K.K.
CAPITAL ¥640,000,000

April 1, 1944

# FILM 'GOCHIN' SHOWS LIFE ON SUBMARINE

### Documentary Picture Presents Thrilling Shots of Sinking Of Enemy Vessels

The documentary film "Gochin," to be released today throughout Japan, depicts the life aboard a submarine of the Imperial Navy during a commerce raiding cruise on the Indian Ocean and it ranks high among all such films. It is unique. From the moment it begins, the film takes the movie-goer aboard the submarine, and with it through some of the most exciting and breathtaking experiences ever to be had.

Leading up with thrilling shots of the sinking of a 7,000-ton oil tanker, a 10,000-ton transport vessel and three other enemy ships at various stages, the film reaches its dramatic climax with the torpedoing of an enemy ship and the tense minutes immediately after when the submarine is being bombed with depth-charges by enemy destroyers.

**Epic Action Film**

This film was made by the Nippon Eiga Sha with the cooperation of the Navy Press Section of the Imperial Headquarters and the Navy authorities at the front-line base. It marks an epoch in the production of action films. It is unique in that it is not just a collection of isolated news films as is the usual case but is a complete drama in itself. The various incidents are welded together into the one theme of the cruise. It was carefully planned out in advance and is a detailed record, including the actual sound, of what goes on aboard a submarine of the Imperial Navy.

For the superb manner in which the technical details in the shooting of the film were handled, credit must go to the eight cameramen and one sound man of the Nippon Eiga Sha, Yoshimi Watanabe, Atsushi Kitabayashi, Hiroshi Okada, Koichiro Banzai, Yobei Masaki, Toshimitsu Takasaka, Hoji Kaneko, Yoshimi Kuramochi, and Masao Kunijima. Music is by Yashi Eguchi, and the theme songs, "Gochin" and "Kaitei Banri" recorded by the Nitchiku, were composed by Tadao Yoneyama.

In the film, a camera was attached to the periscope to give the audience the effect of personally taking a peep at the enemy through the periscope. Its effect is startling. The surface of the ocean is seen from below, and, as the periscope breaks through the surface, the enemy ship suddenly looms in sight.

Another trick shot was obtained by mounting a camera in a water-tight box outside the submarine. One can then see the submarine from the outside as it slowly rises to the surface. Here, even before the submarine is completely emerged and while the water is still running off the decks, the sailors may be seen running up to the cannon to prime it for action.

**Enemy Tanker Sunk**

Scenes of night fighting came with the sinking of an enemy tanker. An oil tanker is made in compartments and is hard to sink. Here the enemy tanker was torpedoed, and after the sound detector man said the sound of the screws of the tanker had stopped, orders were given to rise to the surface and finish it off with the cannon. As the cannon roared into action direct hits could be seen on the enemy tanker, which was carrying light machine oil. Lurid flames from the burning ship lit up the dark night to present an awe-inspiring scene.

Various shots of the interior of a submarine are revealed to the layman for the first time. In the narrow hot engine room the men are seen covered with sweat and oil keeping the roaring diesel engines running. In the navigation room and order room are seen hundreds of dials and handles, which take years of intensive training to regulate properly. There is also a scene of the captain of the ship consulting the charts with the navigation officer and planning the attack.

In the sleeping quarters for the men, the narrow bunks are lined along the wall. Here the men, soaking wet with the spray, come to rest after their watch. Four hours on duty and four hours of rest—this is the grinding schedule during the entire cruise, and the men take advantage of every minute of their rest period to sleep not only to recuperate but also to preserve the precious air in the submarine.

Luxuries aboard a submarine are few and far between. The main luxury may be said to be the meal. But even the meal, no matter how deliciously it may be cooked, does not taste the same in the foul atmosphere of the submarine. Furthermore, it is all canned food. For the first few weeks, the men may eat fresh vegetables, but for the rest of the cruise covering weeks and even months, canned rations compose the meal three times a day. In order to get the necessary vitamins, the men all take vitamin pills.

The climax of the film comes with the sinking of an enemy ship and the crashing reverberations of enemy depth bombs. There are a few tense minutes before the firing of the torpedo and the "Direct Hit!" Through the periscope may be seen the enemy vessel looming full and close. It is hit amidships and slowly breaks in half to plunge to its watery grave with stern high in the air. Then come the enemy destroyers circling on the surface overhead and searching for the submarine. Inside, the sound detector man is concentrating intensely, listening and calling out the direction and distance of the enemy destroyers.

"They are coming nearer!" he says, and just as he shouts, "Depth bomb!" the first thunderous crash of the bomb reverberates through the submarine. This is a never-to-be-forgotten moment in the film.

Somewhere out in the broad expanse of the Pacific and Indian oceans, submarines of the Imperial Navy even now tracking down their prey. This picture was made in order to present to the people behind the guns in Japan the hardships being undergone by the men aboard these underwater craft and to inspire them to further efforts toward winning the war.

This epic photoplay will be flashed on the screens of over 20 leading theaters of Tokyo and Yokohama starting today, simultaneously with its release in all the major cities of the Empire. It has been recommended by the motion picture authorities here as a "must" picture for every Japanese. For its distribution in the Southern Regions, the Nippon Eiga Sha is now making arrangements to translate the dialogue into the various languages of the South.

## Another Foe Ship Torpedoed

A Japanese submarine is seen in the top picture starting off on a mission of destroying enemy commerce lines in the Indian Ocean while the second is an enemy vessel after having been hit by a torpedo as seen through the periscope. The bottom photograph—taken from aboard the submarine—shows the ship just prior to taking the final plunge. These amazing scenes were actual photographs taken by cameramen of the Nippon Eiga Sha with the cooperation of the Navy Press Section of the Imperial Headquarters and the Naval authorities at a front-line base for the filming of the epic motion picture, "Gochin" which is being released throughout Japan today. (Passed by the Navy Ministry)

# PHILIPPINE MISSION TO BE FETED TODAY

### Aquino and Party to Attend Luncheon Given by Matsudaira and Okada

Benigno S. Aquino, Special Ambassador from the Republic of the Philippines and members of his suite will be the guests of honor at a luncheon to be held at 12:30 p.m. today at the Diet Building under the joint sponsorship of Count Yorinaga Matsudaira, President of the House of Peers, and Tadahiko Okada, Speaker of the House of Representatives.

Philippine Ambassador Jorge B. Vargas and Japanese Ambassador to the Philippines Shozo Murata will be invited to the function as associate guests.

Japan will be represented by Count Matsudaira, Speaker Okada, Marquis Yukitada Sasaki, Vice-President of the Upper House, Sakusaburo Uchigasaki, Vice-Speaker of the Lower House, General Nobuyuki Abe, President of the Imperial Rule Assistance Political Association, Greater East Asiatic Affairs Minister Kazuo Aoki, Education Minister Viscount Nagakage Okabe, Finance Minister Sotaro Ishiwata, Ministers Without Portfolio Fumio Goto and Tadao Oasa and other members of the Upper and Lower Chambers.

# OGURA EMPHASIZES ECONOMIC REVIVAL

### Adviser Declares Absorbing Currency, Upping Output Vital Issues for China

Domei

SHANGHAI, April 25.—The economic recovery of Shanghai is the first prerequisite to solve the questions of absorbing currency and increasing production, which are the vital objects of China today, stated Masatsune Ogura, Supreme Economic Adviser to the National Government of China, upon his arrival here today.

Mr. Ogura had been conferring with the leaders of the Nanking Government, authorities of the Japanese Army, Navy and Greater East Asiatic Affairs Ministry in Nanking where he arrived there on April 17.

In a press interview given at the Cathay Hotel today, Mr. Ogura made the following statement regarding the currency and price questions of China.

"I visited Shanghai in July last year as the head of the Japan-China Exchange Economic Mission and now I have come here as the Supreme Economic Adviser to the National Government. The greatest problems under the present economic condition of China are the absorption of currency and the increase of production and to solve these questions, the economic recovery of Shanghai is necessary.

**Seeks Closer Unity**

"To revive the economic condition of Shanghai, the relation between the National Government and the financial circles of Shanghai must be made closer and at the same time the cooperation of Japanese and Chinese businessmen must be intensified.

"When the political and economic thoughts in China are unified and a closer cooperation is effected between Japan and China, various economic measures will bring satisfactory results and the war economy will be smoothly operated. It is, therefore, my intention to frankly confer with the financial and economic leaders of Shanghai on these points.

"Primarily in China the relation between politics and economy has been very weak and the people engaged in economic activities have been making it their first principle to protect themselves. It is important that such an idea should be changed and economic leaders must positively cooperate with the Government. I intend to fully respect the opinions of economic leaders.

"Various economic measures have also to be formed in harmony with the peculiar characteristics and present condition of China. It seems to me that in collecting agricultural products or in increasing production or in enforcing economic control, former measures should be carefully re-examined.

"The future of China with her vast territory, abundant natural resources and a large population is certainly promising. If ever it is possible to turn the huge human and material resources of China into fighting strength, there is no doubt whatever that New China will prosper. I am an economic adviser and not one to undertake economic measures.

"The operation of China's economy should be autonomously undertaken by the authorities of the National Government and the economic leaders of China at their joint wishes and on their responsibilities. It is my sincere wish, therefore, that the officials and private leaders of China will make further efforts to develop new-born China."

# JAPAN GAINS TRUST OF MUFTI IBRAHIM

### Islamite Leader Said 40 Years Ago That Nippon Would Become Hope of Asia

Forty years ago Mufti Ibud tu Rashid Ibrahim, residing at present in Tokyo, prophesized that Japan would become the friend and hope of the East Asiatics as he faced a throng of 10,000 Moslem believers in the holy city of Mecca, reports the Tokyo Shimbun.

At a time when the war situation is being effected greatly by the movement of the 80,000,000 Moslems in India in conjunction with the unfolding of military operations in India, Mufti Ibrahim sent out his stirring call to all Moslems to rise in arms against British imperialism following the cry for action uttered by Grand Mufti Haj Amin el Husseini of Jerusalem.

The better half of Mufti Ibrahim's 95 years has been dedicated to his struggle against the British domination and oppression of the Asiatic races. He first came to Japan in 1908. Since that time the Mufti has been an exile from his native land because of his intense anti-British activities.

His many visits to Japan have almost made this country his second home. He has continued to call to the Mohammedan believers to rise for the construction of a new world order. Grand Mufti Husseini, now in Germany, and Mufti Ibrahim have been bound to each other by their common desire for the liberation of their people.

Mufti Ibrahim bears his venerable age of over 90 years well. In his countenance one glimpses the indomitable, fighting spirit of the warriors of ancient Japan. His long years of residence in Japan has given the Mufti a keen insight into the true spirit of Japan. Interviewed at his home in Yoyogi on the day of his epochal call to Mohammedans throughout the world, the Mufti said:

"I first came to Japan in 1908. The late Prime Minister General Prince Taro Katsura introduced me to a certain Mr. Yamaoka, who accompanied me on a pilgrimage to Mecca. On our way in every town we gathered the Moslems and spoke to them about Japan. My concluding words in all cases were that Britain had so oppressed these people that they were no longer able to rise by themselves. I told them that Japan was the friend of East Asia and that she would become the hope of the peoples of East Asia.

"Three thousand Moslems made the pilgrimage to Mecca with us. Then on the sacred hill of Mecca I shouted to a throng of 10,000 that the friend of Asia was near at hand. I can never forget the emotion that overcame me as the vast crowd responded to my cry. At this moment when the Japanese Forces have pierced into one corner of India, my words will no doubt strike straight into the hearts of our Moslem brethern in India.

"Britain has discharged real bullets of lead into the breasts of the Moslem believers, but Japan has unloosened the blessed dart of liberation. I can hear the voices of joy and exultation break loose among the believers of the God of Islam."

# 7 WAR ORPHANS LAUDED AS BEING MODEL CHILDREN

### Permitted to Attend Extraordinary Grand Festival of Yasukuni Shrine

Seven war orphans now attending national schools were commended as model children by the President of the Society for Extending Aid to Soldiers at a ceremony held on Monday at 3 p.m. at the Shufu-no-Tomo lecture hall here. This is the eighth ceremony of this kind and the children who have been commended thus far total 77 including the newly-commended war orphans.

These seven children are, Toshiitsu Miura now in the first grade of the senior course of the Takasago National School in Sendai; Shigemi Imanishi of the fourth grade of the National School, Nagaoka-gun, Kochi Prefecture; Harukuni Imanishi now in the second grade of the same school; Jin Kamijima enrolled in the third grade of the National School at Kitakatsuragi-gun, Nara Prefecture; Miss Yoshiko Minaochi now in the first grade of the Moriyama National School, Takaoka, Toyama Prefecture; Takashi Yoshinaga, attending the sixth grade of the National School, Hakutaku-gun, Kumamoto Prefecture, and Miss Misako Itano now in the fourth grade of the National School, Kibi-gun, Okayama Prefecture.

Though the coming of all war orphans to Tokyo to attend the Extraordinary Grand Festival of the Yasukuni Shrine was not permitted, these seven children were allowed to come here as they were representing other war orphans at the Festival.

# *Two Women Training To Be Truck Drivers To Aid Nation's Wartime Transportation*

Manifesting their ardent desire to contribute toward the facilitation of wartime transportation, Miss Shorei Yamaguchi, 43, head nun of the Momo Kyokai, a Buddhist temple in Ogu-machi, Arakawa-ku, Tokyo and Miss Mitsue Ito, 22, also residing in Ogu-machi, are now strenuously training at the Truck Drivers' Training Institute of the Nippon Transport Company.

Miss Yamaguchi graduated from the high school attached to the Honganji Temple, Kyoto, in 1926. In 1942 she completed the religious course at Nippon University. Last year, enrolling in the wartime women leaders' training course at Meiji University, she completed the six months' course.

After graduating from the Toshima Girls' High School, Miss Ito also entered the women leaders' training course at Meiji University with Miss Yamaguchi.

When these two women appeared at the Labor Administration Bureau of the Metropolitan Police Board and expressed their eagerness to become truck drivers, their request was not easily complied with due to the fact that women are not considered suitable for such strenuous labor.

However, at last moved by their enthusiasm, the chief of the bureau recommended them to the Nippon Transport Company where again they had a difficult time in convincing the staff of their firm determination. Finally, however, overcoming all obstacles, they were allowed to undergo training as truck drivers.

Should they prove satisfactory, other women will be employed in the future to replace the men in this field. Because much interest is now being focussed on these two women and their activities after they complete the training course, their responsibility is great.

In this connection the Misses Yamaguchi and Ito unanimously de- Yamaguchi and Ito unanimously declared. "We should not take advantage of the general conception that women are not able to undertake strenuous labor as the men. We shall be happy if we can contribute our small share in facilitating wartime transportation."

# CELEBES TO BOOST JAPAN'S WAR AIMS

### Provincial, City Assemblies Promise Collaboration in Output of Vital Materials

Special

MENADO, April 24.—Brilliant efforts to bolster Japan's war efforts are expected to follow in the wake of important meetings which were held by provincial and city assemblies of Menado this month.

At the assembly meetings, measures to enlighten the public regarding Japan's aims as well as boosting native collaboration in the production of important materials were discussed.

At present in North Celebes perfect peace and order is being maintained thanks to the efforts of the Japanese Military Administration and the wholehearted cooperation of the native police force. To bolster the home defenses, additional courses for policemen have been opened at police training quarters here in order that the native patrolmen may be imbued with the same spirit as the police in Japan.

Contributing their bit toward home defense are youths selected from over 1,000 aspirants whose job is to act as air raid wardens. These youthful look-outs are at present undergoing rigid training under the supervision of the Japanese Forces. By the end of this month, these young wardens will become full-fledged members of the Home Defense Corps and will be placed at strategic points where they will maintain constant vigil.

**More Schools Set**

Meanwhile, culturally and economically North Celebes continues to make rapid progress. A marked increase over last year has been registered in the number of boys and girls attending school. Whereas there were approximately 110,000 school children toward the end of last year, at the beginning of this fiscal year 500,000 were attending, an increase of about 40 per cent. To cope with the increasing desire for education, the authorities here will establish schools in the mountainous and other remote places where there are no schools at present. An extensive training of school teachers has also been conducted.

The steps taken toward bolstering education this month include the establishment of the Gorontalo and Tondano Teachers Training Institutes and the Normal School at Tomohon. In addition to training agricultural experts, an agricultural school has been established at Gorontalo.

The cultural education of native inhabitants through moving pictures is now being carried on by a travelling motion-picture crew touring various districts. This movie troupe has entertained and enlightened over 700,000 enthusiastic native movie fans.

For the city folks, Menado has two motion-picture theaters. Gorontalo and Ternate also have theaters while cinema houses are scheduled to open up in Tondano, Langoan, and Bitoeng in the near future.

Industrially, North Celebes has been developing by leaps and bounds with the new industry of the manufacturing of leather goods being carried on with satisfactory results.

With the success now enjoyed by Celebes economically, further measures for increased trade between Japan and the island have been adopted.

# MEDICAL CONGRESS OPENS IN NANKING

### Representatives From Seven Countries of Greater East Asia Attended Conference

Domei

NANKING, April 25.—The third Greater East Asiatic Medical Congress opened here today attended by representatives from the seven countries of Greater East Asia.

At 9 a.m., before the Congress opened, the delegates paid homage before Dr. Sun Yat-sen's Mausoleum.

The opening ceremony was held at the Japan-China Cultural Association quarters at 10 a.m. In addition to the 77 delegates, there were present more than 100 Chinese members of the committee in charge of arrangements for the holding of the Congress.

An address by Dr. Chu Min-yi, Foreign Minister of the National Government of China, who is President of the Congress, opened the ceremony. Mei Ssu-ping, Minister of the Interior, then read the address from President Wang Ching-wei of the National Government.

At noon, following the close of the ceremony, the delegates attended a reception given by the President of the Executive Yuan.

For three days from April 26 the delegates will hold conferences at Hsintan University in Shanghai. The chief topic of the discussions is the creation of a Greater East Asiatic medical science. Delegates will take the opportunity of the meeting to make known the results of their studies.

Officials of the Congress, at a meeting on April 24, decided to hold the fourth Congress in Hsinking early in September next year. They also approved the proposal of Dr. Miyakawa, chief secretary of the body of officials, to hold the fifth Congress in Tokyo in 1946 when the 12th Japanese Medical Congress will also be held.

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# WATER IS SCARCE IN IMPHAL PLAINS

### Region Is Like a Desert, Says Japanese Who Was There 15 Years Ago

Recalling that he paid two sen for a cup of water in Imphal, Hosen Yoshiwara, a Japanese painter, relates to the Asahi his experiences 15 years ago in that region which has now become a bloody arena of battle. During his two years' sojourn in India, Mr. Yoshiwara set out for the Imphal Plains from Chittagong in April, 1927, for a month's sketching trip.

"When I was in Imphal there was nothing of any remarkable interest to be seen," commented Mr. Yoshiwara at his home in Daigo-mura, Nakakanbara-gun, Niigata Prefecture. However, the impressions of Imphal are brought back with fresh vividness to the painter as his son-in-law is now participating in the Japanese-Indian offensives against that citadel of British resistance.

Continuing he says, "The population of Imphal at that time was about 20,000 to 30,000. The houses were either tile-roofed or thatched. The most outstanding building was a two-storied brick structure housing about 15 or 16 British officials.

"As it was just before the start of the rainy season in May, it was very hot. The thermometer I took with me from Japan would only register 100 degrees so I had no idea as to how hot it really was. I wore colored glasses when out in the streets, but the glaring light impaired my eyes greatly. One can get an idea of how hot it is, if he imagines himself on top of a roof, exposed to the suffocating heat waves, on one of the hottest days in Japan. I can well imagine what hardships the men of our forces are now undergoing.

"There is very little water to quench the thirst in that region. I paid two sen for a cup of water and a second cup was not obtainable. But there's plenty of cow and goat milk. In fact milk was cheaper than water. So probably the men of our forces are quenching their thirst with milk.

"The Imphal Plains might be called semi-desert. Vegetables do not grow there, but pineapples, bananas, papayas and such flourish as abundantly as wild grass. Near each house are planted two or three such fruit-bearing trees, so our men probably won't go hungry.

"The cultural level was very low in the Imphal that I knew. The mayor was the only person who knew Japan, and he used to bewail the fact that malaria and dysentery were making deadly inroads on the population. That was 15 years ago. I am sure that Imphal has assumed entirely different aspects since those days.

"The single-petaled, 'sakura' of the Imphal Plains is now in full bloom and amid the fire and din of fierce combats our men are probably reminded of the cherry blossoms in Japan."

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TOKYO, THURSDAY, APRIL 27, 1944

# Britain's Necessity for a Second Front

I

The bustle of preparation, the suppressed undercurrent of grim desperation, the drastic precautions including the violation of the traditional rights of foreign diplomatic representatives, all give ample indications that Britain is at last about ready to attempt the launching of the Second Front. But these outward signs are by no means the most significant. Most compelling are the political reasons which make it absolutely necessary for Britain to make the attempt no matter how reluctant she may really be at heart.

One political factor, which is easy enough to understand, is Britain's relation to the Soviet Union. In view of the tremendous sacrifices in both human lives and materials on the part of the Soviet Union in her war with Germany, the Soviet authorities have naturally been most insistent that Britain and the United States assume their commensurate share of the burden. But so far the Anglo-Americans have only made relatively insignificant gestures in the Mediterranean region, and even these have now bogged down to a stalemate. There is the likelihood that this situation may breed serious consequences in Britain's relationship with the Soviet Union, consequences which Britain can ill afford to countenance.

Not only has the Soviet press been directing a tirade against the lukewarmness and procrastination of the Anglo-Americans, but the Soviet Government has given ample indications that it may take an increasingly independent course of action in its war against Germany to the disregard and detriment of Anglo-American interests. Not only with respect to the war with Germany, but with respect to all the political problems concerning various parts of Europe, the passivity of the Anglo-Americans in their military efforts has given the Soviet Union the power and prestige to make her voice the decisive factor. Whatever may be the effect upon the far-away United States—and even she cannot remain indifferent to the extension of Soviet power which may cut across the path of American ambitions—Britain at least, with her roots embedded on the European Continent and her life force nourished from European soil, cannot afford to see her own influence and prestige completely eclipsed by growing Soviet power. The undertaking of a major operation on the European Continent at least remotely comparable in scale to the Soviet operations on the Eastern Front is an essential requisite to Britain for the maintenance of a balance vis-a-vis the Soviet Union.

II

Perhaps not so obvious but even more basic than her relationship to the Soviet Union is Britain's relationship to the countries of Western Europe. As Smuts, Lyttleton, Halifax, and other British statesmen have pointed out in their speeches, the preservation of Britain's position as a major world Power depends upon Britain's maintaining a political, economic, and military sphere of influence along at least the western fringe of Europe. Without such roots implanted on the European Continent, the British homeland would shrivel and deteriorate into a third-rate island kingdom; the overseas dominions would become a precariously heavy superstructure upon a dangerously weak foundation. To consolidate British influence on Europe's western fringe, the various countries of Western Europe must be drawn into Britain's political orbit; they must be made to look up to British power and prestige as a sheltering wing.

But to bring about this result, Britain must demonstrate her ability to exercise effective power throughout Western Europe, and this cannot be done as long as the British armies remain impotently immobilized on the edges of the Mediterranean or confined in the cantonments of England. Only the formation of a successful Second Front on a truly impressive scale can constitute a convincing demonstration of Britain's right to exist as a major factor in world politics. Hence the absolute necessity, from Britain's point of view, for launching the Second Front whatever the cost.

III

It is the general apprehension over this international situation which has been responsible in large part for the severe attacks which have been leveled recently against the Government by various sections of the British public. The left wing of the British political world has been accusing Churchill of harboring the vain hope that the Soviet Union would be bled white and thereby weakened by withholding adequate aid in the form of a Second Front, whereas the actual result has been only to prolong the war with a consequent delay in the establishment of British influence in Western Europe. On the other hand, the Conservative elements have also been attacking the Churchill Government on the grounds of its weak submissiveness to the initiative of the Moscow Government in all the various European problems to the detriment of British prestige. These attacks have been the main reason for the rumors of the possible resignation of Anthony Eden from his position as Foreign Secretary. The Churchill Government has thus been driven to the wall, attacked from either flank by both the conservative and the radical groups.

In addition to this political crisis, there is the growing war-weariness of the British people who are painfully feeling their strength in human lives and economic resources being slowly drained away while the military situation stands marking time without any perceptible development. This dissatisfaction is reflected in the current wave of strikes throughout Britain which is spreading despite all attempts of the Government to suppress it by drastic penalties.

IV

Impelled by the necessities of the international situation and by the dangerous impatience at home, the British Government has come to the point where it is forced to take decisive action. Under the circumstances, it has no other choice than to embark on the project of a Second Front. There is no other alternative, and the zero hour is now imminent.

But the Second Front is a dangerous gamble. It is more than a gamble; it means inescapable losses on a tremendous scale. With the Germans confidently entrenched behind the impregnable Grand Fortress of Europe, landing operations on the European Continent will be bound to entail colossal sacrifices of men and materials which Britain, already weakened, may not be able to withstand. In addition to all the deadly losses which are bound to occur in any case, the venture holds every likelihood of turning out to be a disastrous military debacle. The way in which Field Marshal Kesselring has stopped the Anglo-American invasion of Italy shows what the Germans can do even to numerically superior Anglo-American forces. To stake everything on the Second Front and then to suffer defeat or even to be held to a stalemate may well mean the final collapse of Britain. Inescapable as the necessity of a Second Front undoubtedly is, it is a fatally expensive and desperately hazardous undertaking before which the stoutest British heart must quail. Britain must undertake it without question, but she may be doomed if she does and doomed if she doesn't.

## A Year Ago Today

April 27, 1943

The anger of the Egyptians against British oppression has now risen to such an extent that a movement for effecting the downfall of the present Egyptian Cabinet headed by Premier Mustapha Nahas Pasha, which is regarded as pro-British, has been started.

* * *

The members of the American Miners' Union, employed in the eastern coal mining region of the United States, with Pennsylvania as its center, have been in a state of unrest recently in connection with the negotiations for higher wages, and finally about 9,000 miners in the region went out on strike today.

* * *

The British Government has agreed to allow the United States to use the military port of Gibraltar in return for payment annually of 600,000 pounds toward operating expenses.

* * *

Contrary to the loud enemy propaganda, the fighting strength of the Chungking forces is swiftly declining, and the regime is now said to be desperate in maintaining its manpower as well as the preservation of arms. Superficially, both the United States and Britain may seem to be rendering great assistance by sending various arms and ammunition to Chungking, but in actuality their aid is so disappointing that the morale of the Chiang Kai-shek troops is considerably deteriorating of late.

* * *

The Vichy Government has approved the steps taken by the Japanese authorities against the crews of American planes who blindly bombed Tokyo last year, and announced that the anit-Axis airmen who carry out inhuman raids on France in the future will be treated in the same manner adopted by Japan.

# Too Large and Too Small A World

By Japonicus

III

"The World's highway knows no barriers." Fundamentally, the face of the world should be open to all. Japan discountenances the tendency to construct barriers and fences on the thoroughfare of mankind to check the free passage of man and materials. This is especially so where such barriers and fences are set around spacious areas acquired through accidents of history such as discoveries and conquests, and the natural resources therein which should be available for promoting the welfare of mankind, are monopolized by a single country under the name of sovereignty. "Unevenness begets agitation," as our saying goes. The present confusion of the world may be looked upon as a result of this uneven state of affairs. Japan's world policy fundamentally starts always from the concept of unobstructed universal intercourse; it starts from the idea of "One World." As a practical problem however, we cannot take the Utopian view that mankind has attained a stage of development in which the "One World" can immediately be realized. The nations of the world will learn many lessons from this War. The North Pole will become available for air traffic, the distance between the eastern and western hemispheres will be curtailed, and there will be an entirely new geographical map of the world. And yet, the inhabitants of the world will not be able abruptly to emancipate themselves from their long-standing traditions and history. Moreover, nationalistic tendencies will rather be enhanced than otherwise after the present war; much more so, perhaps, than after the first World War.

Confronted with the rapid transformation of the world's surface through the extension of traffic routes and other developments in technology on the one hand and the conservative world-view of the nations of the world on the other, what shall be the line along which world peace is to be maintained? This is a great problem presented before the statesmen of the world. As an answer to a similar problem at the end of the first World War, the League of Nations made its appearance. It collapsed. As to the fundamental cause of this collapse, we entirely agree with the elucidation offered by Mr. Wendell Willkie. "It failed because it was primarily an Anglo-French-American solution, retaining the old colonial imperialisms under new and fancy names. It took inadequate account of the pressing needs of the Far East, nor did it sufficiently seek a solution of the economic problems of the world. Its attempts to solve the world's problems were primarily political. But political internationalism without economic internationalism is a house built on sand. The failure of the League of Nations should be a warning for the future; it should be a milestone to the progress of mankind.

The idea of regional peace embodied in the Greater East Asia Joint Declaration has been conceived having this experiment in view. It recognizes that the world is one, but the world is too large under present conditions to operate as a political unit. Especially there is no organized force to direct or regulate the conduct of states. If, however, an international army should be adopted for coercive purposes, such as is envisaged in Clarence Streit's "Union Now," it will either be too European in character, or it is liable to degenerate into an extreme form of Anglo-Saxon domination, much more so, perhaps, than under the regime of the League of Nations. World politics will tend to develop, not along the lines of the idealistic planning of its author but through balance of power, with strong powers as their pivots. If so, localized political peace machinery, whether rightly or wrongly, will be necessary consequence. It is significant that the opinion advanced by General Smuts of South Africa in his address in London on November 25, 1943, whatever one may say about its details, expresses this viewpoint. The Joint Declaration, emphasizing the guarantee of East Asia's security and the maintenance of an order of common prosperity based upon justice, is also conceived in similar terms.

Local political security alone is not enough. The world, which is too large to be operated as a single unit politically, must economically be viewed as one entity. Thus the fifth paragraph of the Joint Declaration reads:

"The countries of Greater East Asia will cultivate friendly relations with all the countries of the world, and work for the abolition of racial discrimination, the promotion of cultural intercourse and the opening of resources throughout the world, and contribute thereby to the progress of mankind."

In other words, the position of Japan and other countries of East Asia is that the world is politically too large but economically too small.

This political regionalism, which is evinced in the Declaration, has historically much connection with the past policy of Japan. Dr. E. Dillon, who attended the Portsmouth Peace Conference after the Russo-Japanese War and had conducted an anti-Japanese propaganda against Japan in behalf of the Russian delegation, says in one of his books, "Peace Conference": "One of the characteristic traits of all Nippon's dealings with her neighbors is her loyalty and trustworthiness. Her intercourse with Russia before and after the Manchurian campaign (Russo-Japanese War) offers a shining example of all the qualities which one would postulate in a true-hearted neighbor, and a staunch and chivalrous ally. I had an opportunity of watching the development of the relations between the two Governments for many years before they quarreled, and subsequently down to 1914, and I can state the praise lavished by the Czar's ministers on their Japanese colleagues was well deserved." And further, "In other words, she aimed at the proclamation, something in the nature of a Far Eastern doctrine analogous to that of Monroe. As a priority of interests had been conceded to her by the Ishii-Lansing Agreement with the United States, it was in this sense that her place was fain to construe the clause respecting the non-interference with regional understanding."

Looking at from the standpoint of Japan's history, and at least in its outward form, the development of "regional understanding" mentioned above into a regionalism of the Joint Declaration may be compared to the historical developments of Monroe Doctrine. It was considered necessary by the United States that no great non-American power should have any foothold in the Americas. The Atlantic Charter, Lippman's nuclear alliance, and Spykman's plan seem to take it for granted that America's real reason for entering this war was that the Triple Alliance aimed at aggressive designs on the Western Hemisphere. On this point, we might well ask where on earth is such a thing written in the Treaty of Triple Alliance?

Britain and America jointly declare that they hope to establish "a peace which will afford to all nations the means of dwelling safely within their own boundaries and which will afford assurance that all men in all lands may live out their lives in freedom from fear and want." Now the "safety" within their own boundaries will be threatened in Greater East Asia if Britain or America have outposts therein. This is so not only for Japan, but for China. It is certainly a menace to the countries of Greater East Asia that America or Britain have outposts in the Philippines, Hongkong, Malai, other points in the western Pacific. The argument that Americans can well do it in this part of the world has just as little force as one that Japan can well do it in the Americas. What America requires of Japan must reciprocally be practised by America. Since Britain and America have not practised it—Churchill declared that he had not assumed office for the liquidation of the British Empire—Japan tries to destroy these outposts for the security of the countries of Greater East Asia. This is a natural conclusion out of their own logic. It is curious to see that the arguments of the geopolitical thinkers in the United States should logically tend to endorse the legitimacy of Japan's war aims and the necessity of the construction of a common sphere of prosperity of Greater East Asia.

(End)

# SHIP INDUSTRY THRIVES IN HONGKONG

## S. China Economy Revives With Port-City as Nucleus

(From the Shin Toa Keizai)

Hongkong used to be an important base for Britain's invasion of East Asia, but it is now fulfilling energetically the new role assigned to it for the establishment of the Common Prosperity Region of Greater East Asia. It has been purged of all British aspects and has embarked on activities aimed at the common prosperity of East Asia.

At the time of its occupation by the Japanese Forces, Hongkong was found to be in possession of large stocks of sugar and salt—the former commodity to an amount large enough to meet six months' demand and the latter to meet the demand for about four years. Its stock of rice, the mainstay of the inhabitants, was, however, very small, so that the Japanese military authorities, for meeting the resulting shortage of food, resorted to the dispersion of population, the rationing of rice and the speedy importation of the cereal. Thanks to these measures, perfect peace and order was rapidly restored and the threatened crisis was averted.

Hongkong owed its remarkable development in the past in the fields of industry and trade, in no small measure, to its close economic connection with Canton which is fed by the fertile Pearl River delta. In other words, whereas South China made the best use of Hongkong as the supplier of industrial goods, Hongkong itself thrived on South China which served as its hinterland.

In this way, the economy of South China is reviving vigorously with Hongkong as the nucleus. As it is, however, it cannot be denied that South China stands on a comparatively weak economic basis. In order to strengthen it, it is necessary at once to develop trade in South China and to stimulate trade with the Southern Regions. With this end in view, a trade agreement with the Philippines was concluded in May, 1943, and a similar trade arrangement was effected with Shonan in July of the same year. It is further expected that trade with French Indo-China, Thailand and Borneo will be arranged shortly.

### Is Favorably Circumstanced

One is apt to regard the Southern Regions as fit only for light industry, but, as a matter of fact, the Southern Regions embrace many districts favored by conditions requisite for the development of heavy industry. In this regard, Hongkong is also particularly favorably circumstanced. Not only has it South China in its neighborhood but it has within its easy reach important materials produced in the Southern Regions such as iron, tin, nickel, bauxite, chrome, etc.

In many places in the Southern Regions, the construction of wooden ships is going on as actively as in Japan and one new ship after another is being launched in rapid succession. There both timber best suited for the building of wooden ships and labor are obtainable in plenty, and, besides, many natives volunteer for service as seamen. In this sense, the Southern Regions leave nothing to be desired in the matter of wooden shipbuilding, and accordingly this industry promises to prosper there in post-war days. And, in this connection, it may be noted that the construction of wooden vessels is most actively carried on at Hongkong.

Blessed with a natural good harbor and possessed of two big dockyards fitted with modern equipment, Hongkong has always boasted the most efficient shipbuilding industry in the South. It, therefore, rose excellently to the occasion and immediately started the construction of wooden ships in response to the requirements of the moment.

Following the outbreak of the War of Greater East Asia, there was a continual fall in the value of the old fapi, with the corresponding steep rise in prices. In view of the great distress to which the masses were reduced in consequence, the Wang Ching-wei Administration abandoned the policy of parity between the Central Reserve Bank notes and the fapi. This caused the complete collapse of the fapi with the result that fapi-based prices went on soaring limitlessly. Apprehensive of its very deleterious effects on the livelihood of the populace, the Chinese authorities took positive steps to put the Central Reserve Bank notes into wider circulation for the purpose of stabilizing prices, linking them to the Yen, and South China centering in Hongkong was brought into the Yen bloc. The consequent stabilization of the currency has whetted economic activities in South China, and all kinds of enterprises which had been in a bad way began to revive vigorously. Hongkong is now an important center in economic activities in the South in fact as well as in name.

# Scramble for Oil in West Asia

## U.S. Contriving to Use Present Opportunity to Tear Britain's Network of World Domination to Pieces

By YOSHITAKA MITSUDA
(From the Jikyoku Joho)

There have been persistent reports of late of America's designs on oil resources in West Asia. According to foreign telegrams, America is even planning the laying of pipelines to the Mediterranean and the establishment of oil refineries in conjunction with her project for the exploitation of oil resources in West Asia.

British influence has long been dominant in West Asia and accordingly the oil resources there have largely been under British control. America's intrusion into this field will therefore inevitably give rise to grave issues between the two countries to say nothing of its bringing about a big change in their relative influence in the Mediterranean as well as in West Asia. If the Soviet Union comes to have a hand in the scramble, as most likely it will, there is a strong possibility of this oil problem proving a cause of serious discord developing in the future relationships of America, Britain and the Soviet Union.

### Shown by Past Action

No details are known of America's oil scheme or the extent of its progress, but a general idea can be formed of American intentions from the action already being taken in West Asia and also from the statements made by the American authorities from time to time. It seems that the first occasion for arousing America's interest in the oil problem of West Asia was the argument advanced by a party of American Senators on their return home last year from their tour of inspecting the European front that America should claim the cession of air bases and oil resources within the British sphere of influence, in compensation for the arms supplied to that country.

Coming at a time when uneasiness was aroused widely among the American people by the pessimistic forecasts that America's oil resources would not suffice to meet the domestic demand for more than fifteen years or that in the event of another gigantic war, America would have to go begging to foreign countries for oil, the contention of these Senators carried much conviction. The American Government was not slow to utilize the situation thus created, and at the end of last year it embarked on the scheme of developing the oil resources of West Asia. It has accordingly sent economic missions and investigating parties to Iran and Iraq. Particularly high hopes are said to be pinned by America on Saudi Arabia, to which she has dispatched groups of experts for geological investigations.

In Saudi Arabia, the Standard Oil Company has held a lease of 250,000 square miles of land since 1939. Because British influence is not so dominant in that country as in Iran and Iraq and because its resources are largely left undeveloped, the American Government is reported to be negotiating with King Ibn Sa'ud for the monopolistic exploitation of the oil fields of the country. According to the New York Times (January 28), a plan is afoot to lay big pipe-lines from Saudi Arabia to the Mediterranean at the estimated cost of from $130,000,000 to $160,000,000.

### Set Up Company in Iran

The oil interests in Iran have long been monopolized by the Anglo-Iranian Oil Company, a company with British capital of which 56 per cent is held by the British Government, but in 1937 American capital made its way into this country also, and established the Amiranian Oil Company in North Iran. After the outbreak of the present war, American troops and parties of experts were sent into it, resulting in the consolidation of the American position there. In the spheres of activity other than oil also, America's economic activities are steadily increasing, with the result that the British influence is gradually being eclipsed.

In Iraq, American and French capital represents each 23.75 per cent and the rest is held exclusively by the Iraq Oil Company, a British concern. The oil produced is being sent to Tripoli and Haifa on the Mediterranean by two pipe-lines. No details are available as to the drilling of new wells, but judging from the report that $1,250,000 is provided for drilling purposes, it is certain that the plans laid down in this connection are on a fairly large scale.

As regards the extension of the existing refineries and the establishment of new ones, the matter is evidently claiming earnest attention. At present, the refineries at Abadan in Iran, at Haifa in Palestine, at Suez in Egypt and at Bahrein in the Persian Gulf are being operated at the highest pitch. At any rate, it is believed certain that there will soon be a great increase in oil production in West Asia. By developing fully the oil resources hitherto left undeveloped, America and Britain are intending to secure a plentiful supply of oil for their operations in Europe and in the Mediterranean in particular.

The American design in this regard is plain from the statement made on February 4 that the American Government was going to take in hand the production of oil in West Asia and another statement made by Harold Ickes the following day that his Government was considering the construction of a pipeline, 2,000 kilometers long, between the Persian Gulf and the Mediterranean. A recent foreign telegram further reports that at the Teheran Conference at the end of November last year, President Roosevelt explained the American scheme of constructing this pipe-line across Arabia, adding that his Government intended to build a naval base at Haifa, the terminus of the projected pipe-line.

### Seek New Oil Resources

Colonel Frank Knox, the Secretary of the Navy, declared on March 21 that the plan to lay the pipe-line from Arabia to the Mediterranean was conceived purely for strategic reasons. Seeing that America's oil resources are gradually being exhausted, he said, it is absolutely necessary for America to seek new oil resources somewhere abroad. Under the new scheme, according to the American Secretary of the Navy, 1,000,000,000 barrels of oil required for the execution of the war will be obtained from West Asia.

The oil problem has served to disclose America's designs on West Asia quite plainly. Her oil policy in West Asia is not merely for providing against the exhaustion of her own oil resources or for obtaining the oil needed for the conduct of the present war—for the operations in the Mediterranean especially. These are only nominal reasons. Its real purpose is clearly to further America's ambition of establishing hegemony over the world, for it forms part of America's world policy of political and economic domination. In short, America is secretly contriving to utilize the present opportunity to tear Britain's network of world domination to pieces and to step into the shoes of this poor old master in West Asia as well as in other parts of the world.

The one who controls West Asia must necessarily be the one who controls the Mediterranean. If Britain is shut out of West Asia, it will certainly deal a crippling blow to the British Empire as a whole. And, unfortunately for Britain, things are assuredly moving in that direction. Though, outwardly, Britain pretends to be friendly with America, she is inwardly very jealous of that country.

### Dollar Versus Pound

The world policy of the White House or the American oil scheme in West Asia is nothing but the outcome of combination between Jewish avarice and the Dollar diplomacy. It means, in effect, a big offensive of Dollar capital against Pound capital. Oil is, of course, very important, and its absolute necessity in war makes it imperative in the American eye for the Dollar to intervene. The emancipation of the people in West Asia is for the American people an idea of a sentiment too absurd to be entertained for a moment. The Dollar is all in all to them. They are ready to risk everything else for the sake of the Dollar.

It remains to be seen, however, whether America's ambition will be realized as she wishes. Premier Josef Stalin is shrewd enough to see through America's design. At the moment he is refraining from any obtrusive attitude, so far as the oil problem is concerned. At the Teheran Conference, it is said, he simply listened to President Roosevelt's explanation without demur, confining himself to the expression of the wish for the common use of the projected naval base at Haifa. Be the matter what it may, America and Britain have often been foiled in the past by Premier Stalin's unexpected moves. Who can gainsay, then, that America will again find the Soviet Union standing athwart her path? This is especially so where the matter concerns West Asia. The Soviet Union is all eagerness to advance southward, and anything pertaining to West Asia must be a matter of vital concern to that country. Thus, the developments of the Anglo-Soviet-American relationships in that particular region deserve careful watching.